

The Five Attributes of Wilderness Character from 1964 Wilderness Act

natural

- protected and managed so as to preserve its natural conditions
- natural forces dominate

untrammelled

- free, unrestrained, and unconstrained from humankind.
- not subject to human controls and manipulations

undeveloped

- a continuous stretch of country preserved in its natural state (Aldo Leopold)
- humankind's imprint is unnoticeable

solitude and/or primitive and unconfined recreation

- separation from civilization, connection to nature, self-paced activities
- travel by nonmechanized and non-motorized means; reliance on personal skills rather than reliance on facilities and help; self-discovery

unique or outstanding features

- ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical value

Timeline for Public Engagement

SPRING 2016: PROCESS & CRITERIA

- Explanation of the process
- Help us define the inventory and evaluation criteria to use in the process

SUMMER 2016: INVENTORY MAPS/ HOW TO APPLY EVALUATION CRITERIA

- Draft inventory maps
- How to apply the evaluation criteria

FALL 2016: EVALUATION MAPS

- Draft evaluation maps

WINTER 2016/2017: ANALYSIS

- Forest Supervisor chooses which areas (if any) to move into analysis
- Analysis occurs in Forest Plan Revision



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Wilderness Inventory & Evaluation Process in Forest Plan Revision



Santa Fe National Forest
Plan Revision 2016

What is Wilderness?

In 1964, Wilderness Act was passed as law, intended to permanently protect some of the most natural and undisturbed places in America. The Wilderness Act is the guiding piece of legislation for all wilderness areas. The Act describes wilderness areas as:

"...lands designated for preservation and protection in their natural condition..." § 2(a)

"...an area where the earth and its community of life are untrammelled by man..." § 2(c)

"...an area of undeveloped Federal land retaining its primeval character and influence, without permanent improvement or human habitation..." § 2(c)

"...generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable..." § 2(c)

"...has outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation..." § 2(c)

"...shall be devoted to the public purposes of recreation, scenic, scientific, educational, conservation and historic use." § 4(b)

Required Forest Plan Revision Process to Inventory and Evaluate Lands that may or may not be Suitable for the National Wilderness Preservation System

The questions outlined in each step below were based on the criteria categories provided in the 2012 Planning Rule and Forest Service Handbook Directives, 1909.12, Chapter 70.

What can you do in Wilderness?

WHAT IS CONSIDERED AT EACH STEP?

